RIGHT USES OF WALL ST.

THE LEGITIMATE BUSINESS THAT MAY BE CARRIED ON THERE.

The following, taken from this week's *Christian Union*, may be valuable to some RECORD readers.

Wall street lately under a popular and a not wholly undeserved opprobrium; but it is unfortunately indiscriminating opprobrium. There are gamblers in Wall street. One may gamble on anything, from ivory counters up to real estate for stakes. There is no game of cards as hazardous as the faro bank so dangerous, as some aspects of Wall street present; there are no gamblers more unscrupulous than some Wall street operators. But there is also no business more legitimate and more valuable to the nation than much of the business done in Wall street, and no men of higher moral tone, of greater commercial integrity, and rendering a larger public service than some of the bankers and brokers of Wall street.

Consider for a moment:—

The difference between a poor country and a rich country is chiefly made up by the difference between a country which merely hoards its wealth and a country which sets it at work. In the Orient wealth is hoarded, and the Orient is a land of beggars and of boggary. If a man happens to accumulate a little money he is simply more unfortunate than his neighbors. He can not invest it, for there are no enterprises in which he can invest it, and no men to whose honesty he can entrust it. He cannot lend it to the Government, for no man can tell how soon the Government will repudiate its obligations. He cannot spend it on his own house, because, for the moment either shows signs of wealth the rapacious tax-gatherer will come down upon him. So he puts it into gold and precious stones, digs a hole in the ground and buries it. A hidden hoard in the ground is worth no more than any other metal. In the United States wealth is set at work. It is invested in stocks—railways, mining, banking, manufacturing stock—which are employed to transport freight and passengers, to dig ore out of the earth and bring it to useful purposes, to convert the wood of the living forest into lumber for man's use, to build houses to be occupied by the families of workmen employed in the various industries established. A large proportion of the wealth invested in railroads, though some of it is squandered in extravagance and in fraudulent speculation, is really employed in the development of the country and in the performance of useful public service, with which duty it is charged by the law. Even capital invested in stocks of gas companies, which are sometimes managed in the interest of the few rather than of the many, is employed in a service which the community needs to have performed, and which it is willing to pay for. Capital invested in manufacturing stocks is employed in producing the various articles which the people need, this discharge can be augmented to a pouring flood. American managers might make a note of that. The king was the sole audience. The opera proceeded. It was a piece with a storm in it. The mimic thunder began to mutter, the mimic wind began to wail and sough, and the mimic rain to patter. The king's interest rose higher and higher; it developed into enthusiasm. He cried out,—

"It is good, very good, indeed! But I will have real rain. Turn on the water."

The manager pleaded for a reversal of the command, said it would ruin the costly scenery and the splendid costumes, but the king cried,—

"No matter, no matter. I will have real rain. Turn on the water!"

So the real rain was turned on, and began to descend in gossamer lances to the mimic flowerbeds and gravel walks of the stage. The richly dressed actresses and actors tripped about, singing bravely, and pretended not to mind it. The king was delighted; his enthusiasm grew higher. He cried out,—

"Bravo, bravo! More thunder! More lightning! Turn on more rain!"

The thunder boomed, the lightning glared, the storm wind raged, the deluge poured down. The mimic royalty of the stage, with their soaked satin clinging to their bodies, stopped around ankle-deep in the water, warbling their sweetest and best; the fiddlers under the eaves of the stage sawed away for dear life, with the cold overflow spouting down the backs of their necks, and the dry and happy king sat in his lofty box and wore his gloves to ribbons applauding.

"More yet!" cried the king. "More yet. Let loose all the thunder! Turn on all the water! I will hang the man that raises an umbrella!"

When the most tremendous and effective storm that had ever been produced in any theatre was at last over, the king's approbation was measureless. He cried,—

"Magnificent, magnificent! Encore! Do it again!"

But the management succeeded in persuading him to recall the encore, and said the company would feel sufficiently rewarded and complimented in the mere fact that the encore was demanded. They has nay say, without fatiguing him with a repetition of the gaudy thunder-and-rain.

During the remainder of the act, the lucky performers were those whose parts required change of dress. The others were a soaked, bedraggled and uncomfortable lot, but in the last degree picturesque. The stage scenery was ruined, trap doors were so swollen they would not work for a week afterward, the fine costumes were spoiled, and no end of minor damages were done by that remarkable storm.

I am very sorry that storm and royalty parted. But observe the moderation of the king. He did not insist upon his encore. If he had been a girl-stone unreflecting American opera audience, he probably would have had a storm repeated and repeated until he had worn out all those people. *Mark Twain.*

"THAT 'ERE TENNYSON."

"I'm somewhat looking around for a book of poetry to give my darter on her birthday," explained an old-looking man, the other day, as he stood in a Woodward avenue bookstore came forward to wait on him.

"Yes, sir. Have you any choice of the poets?"

"Waal, I suppose they are all off the same piece," replied the old man, as he scanned the shelves. "I don't know much about 'em, but the gal she seems to think a heap of that 'ere chap called Tennymoon."

"Tennyson, you mean."

"Waal, I guess so. I hain't no hand to remember names. Do you know anything about this 'ere Tennyson?"

"Why, he's one of the leading poets."

"Married man?"

"Yes."

"Moves around in party good society, does he? Ever hear he wasn't exactly straight?"

"Why, Mr. Tennyson is supposed to be a gentleman," said the astonished clerk; "though, of course, I don't know anything about his private life."

"Does he use any slang phrases in his verses?"

"Of course not."

"Anything about girls eloping away from home with pirates or robbers?"

"Not a word."

"The reason I'm a leetle perticler," said the old man, "is because my gal is rather on the romance. She's just dying to slope off with some pirate or be lugged off by some Injun killer, and if that 'ere Tennyson is on the slope, I don't want his verses."

"Oh, you can be sure that his verses are all right, they contain nothing but the purest sentiment."

"Another thing is, a gal in our neighborhood sent off after some one's poems, and that 'ere pamphlet came near working a heap of evil. There was a song in it about a boy with a glass eye, and another about flirting with a feller on the corner, and I can't tell you what. Twasn't a week afore Sarah begun to say she'd like to 'collar a bean,' and asking her mother not to 'give her away,' and all such slang as that. I kept her churning butter from six in the morning till ten at night, and I guess it reformed her, but I don't want to set her agoing ag'in."

"I assure you that Tennyson's poems are all right," said the clerk.

"Waal, I'm going up to market, just now, but after dinner I'll call and see the book. If there's a single crooked word I won't have it, for I hain't going to have Sarah sliding down from her chamber winder at midnight to meet no brigand, and if she ever tells me ag'in that I'm a kicker, I'll box her ears, even if she is going on twenty-three."

"KEEP GITTIN'."

The preaching of perseverance—or any other practical duty—is often more forcible in the language of an ignorant man than that of a learned man. Here is a little sermon in colored English, but full of common sense for that class of people who feel that Deme Nature insulted them when she refused to allow them to be born rich. Even the hen has to scratch for the worm, but these people expect the worm to crawl within reach, and ask for the privilege of being eaten.

"My friends," said Plato Johnson, in one of his oratorical moods, "de worl' am so constertuted dat while dar am jest 'bout 'nuff fur everybody who is willin' to work, dar aint a morsel left fur ds man who sits under de trees an' 'spects de apple to fall into his mouf.

"Now, I's studied apples all my days, an' I neber knew one dat wouldn't hang onto de limb until it was shook down—dat is, ob course, a sound, sensible apple.

"Don't stan' roun' de corner ob de street wid a wild expectation dat de man who libs dar is goin' to come out on de cold sidewalk an' ask you to be his son-in-law.

"I've seen many a man loafin' roun' Forty-second street depot as though he felt sure dat if he stayed dar long 'nuff, Mr. Vanderbilt would come aut an' hand him a check of one million dollars, an' say, 'Young man, take dis small pile an' be happy.'

"No, de better way am to git your eye fixed on somethin', an' den keep movin', keep movin'. De whole philosophy of life is in de little words, 'Keep gittin',' an after awhile you are sho' to fin' yourself somewhar."

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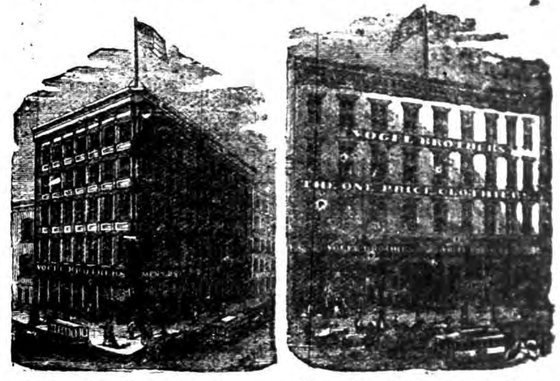

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